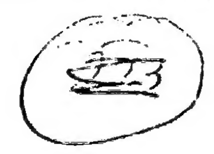






STANDARD FORM NO. 64

[redacted]

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Assistant Director, Scientific Intelligence DATE: 8 December 1953

FROM : Chief, Operations Staff, O/SI

SUBJECT: Report on Book Entitled "Flying Saucers from Outer Space"

1. As requested, the subject book was reviewed by one of our consultants with particular reference to possible security violations concerning CIA's part in the flying saucer investigation. Pertinent comments of this consultant are as follows:

a. "The book itself is highly readable, but the content is highly distorted and filled with so many half-truths and inferences that I feel certain that the author is knowingly committing a perpetration. Prominent in the book is one Albert M. Chop, an Air Force (Reserve) Public Information Officer who was on duty at the Pentagon until recently returning to inactive duty. The author, Keyhoe, makes extensive use of Chop's statements and implies that the Air Force is deliberately concealing positive conclusions from the public.

b. "CIA is mentioned several times on page 242 of the book -- nowhere else. Keyhoe states here that a friend of his, with high level 'contacts', told him about February 17, 1953, that:

(1) CIA 'people' advised the Air Force to put out a report debunking the saucers, tell the public the project was ended and then carry it on underground, Top Secret.

(2) Some of the 'intelligence boys' were mad as the devil at CIA for even suggesting the above action.

c. "CIA is supposed to have made these recommendations following a 'secret high level briefing'. There is no apparent knowledge of the CIA panel meetings although the Panel's recommendations might have been interpreted by a fanatical saucer 'believer' as 'debunking'. However, there was certainly no recommendation that suggested hiding any information from the public.

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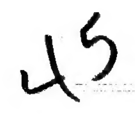
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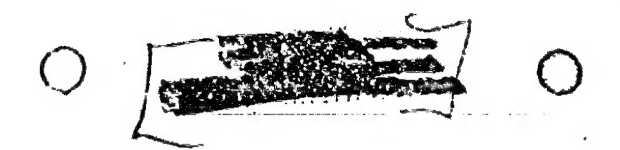
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d. "Therefore, Keyhoe, having built up a 'case' for saucers being interplanetary, insists that the Air Force (and CIA) know the 'truth' and are refusing to give the public the facts.

e. "I saw Dr. Stefan T. Possony (Chief, USAFOIN Special Study Group) recently. He was not aware of any particular concern in the Pentagon over Keyhoe's assertions. However, it might be wise to check directly with the officer who replaced Major Dewey Fournet in Current Intelligence. I believe his name is Smith. Part of his duties are to follow all reports of sightings of U.F.O.'s.

f. "As to the possibility of a security breach, it is difficult to say. I suspect that Chop heard of CIA's being briefed but that no leak occurred regarding the O/SI Panel."

2. It is believed that no security breach is involved and any investigation of this book would only serve to focus additional attention on an obvious bit of sensational science "fiction". It is recommended, therefore, that no further action regarding the book be initiated by this office.

P. G. STRONG

B-3

OSI:CFMarsh:kvl

Distribution:
Orig & 1 - Forward
1 - Exec
1 - P&E
1 - ASD
1 - Subject
1 - Chrono
1 - Daily Reading

